

OF SOME CHIEF
WORKES
WHICH
M^r. WILLIAM WHEELER

Offereth to undertake;

He having already often performed many of them,
and being able to demonstrate his sufficiency
for the rest.

Ecclef. 9. vers. 10.

*Thy hand findeth to doe, doe it quickly, for there is no
work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave,
whither thou goest.*



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A List of some Chief works, which M^r. WILLIAM
WHEELER offereth to undertake, having already
often performed many of them, and being able to demon-
strate his sufficiency for the rest &c.

I.



He makes Engines which by the help of one
man have delivered 500 tunns of water in an
houre, about three foot (as hath bin tried at
Amsterdam) and others that deliver 1000
tunns in the same time, 6 foot high, with the help
of one Horse only. These workes of his doe
not only raise three times more water, but
three times higher, then the draining Mills of
the Low-Countries, and vvithall freeth the vva-
ter vvich hath bin raised, from vvhat remaines behind, vvich theirs
doe not doe, much of the vvater vvich hath bin by them raised, return-
ing back againe thither from vvhence it came. Hee applies these
instruments to the draining of ponds, meeres and all sorts of vvaterish
and fenny places, and consequently maketh that Land to beare good
grafs, vvich before afforded nothing but rushes, sedge and such other
unprofitable materialls, whereby the increase of such Lands is multi-
plied to a very vast proportion. Hee dreineth Cole-pits and Metall-
Minies at far easier rates and with lesse tiring and jadeing of horses,
then by the ordinary way, and performeth such workes of this nature,
as by the meanes now in use are impossible. Contraryvvise, he hereby
drowvneeth or vvatereth dry-lands, vvwhether for makeing them more
strong and defensible, or more fruitful, then naturally they are. He
can also hereby conveigh vvater to towvnes or Houses, that lie very
remote from, and very much above any spring-heads or Rivers. He
facilitates the ordinary devices of brevvvers and diers in fitting their
furneses, and in generall, doth more in all respects of speed, quantity,
height, ease, &c. concerning the busynes of draining and drowvning,
then by any other meanes and contrivances novv extant, hath bin or
can be effected.

II.

Hee undertaketh to bore timber with a wooden Augur faster,
freighter,

freighter, of a bigger boare, and vvithall much better Cheape, and the Pipes thus boared (if they be for the conveyance of vvater under ground to great distantes) he so layeth and placeth, that they last tvvice or thrice as long, as they are vvont to doe being laid the ordinary vvay.

III.

He offereth to passe boates over a deepe River, running never so swift and of great breadth, vvithout the use of oares, sail, or ought else, that by its noife or visibilitie, may give notice thereof: and on the other side of the said River, to fasten piles into the ground, vvithout makeing any noife likewise; a matter of great use in the entring and takeing of Tovvnes fortified by such Rivers. Where it is to be noted, that this vvay of driving piles, is not so distructive to them as that other of violent knocking, bruiseing and shaking them, must needs be.

IV.

Hee maketh beames, for the vveighing of extraordinary vveights, by vvhich the trouble and cost of such vveighings may be much abated; and doth more by Cranes, then is any vvhere usually done.

V.

Hee hath expeditious vvayes to cut iron and many secrets of that Nature.

VI.

Hee hath contrived better tooles, both for dispatch, cheapenes and exact vvorkeing, for sundrie artificers and Gentlemen versed in the more curious subtil and elegant Mechaniks: As namely savves, vvhereby ovaies, sphæres, or any portions or segments of them, may vvith one svveepe of the same be taken out of a body of timber or other materiall and consequently all curious and difficult excavations and hollovves much desired for dials &c. may be more easily and more speedily made. Also vvashing-bovves, cupps &c. May be made more quickly and incomparably vvith lesse expence of the materialls, then is ordinarily done.

VII.

Hee maketh Instruments for the formeing of Stone, into all manner of regular figures, vvwhether right-lined, circular, or mixt, and the polishing them so shaped, vvith more ease and beauty then ordinary.

VIII.

Hee maketh falling-Mills, vvhich vvith halfe the force by men or

horses, are equivalent in strength and effect to the common ones moved by vvind or vvater. These fulling-Mills he vvvas moved to invent, that the busynes of fulling might be moderated and governed at the discretion of the Artift, vvvhich requireth another order and degrees of slack or vehement motion, then the unconstant and unruly vvind or vvater vvill allowv. Novv the Art of fulling, is that vvvhich gives as it vvvere the very Essence to cloath and the faults committed therein, doe frustrate all that vvwhereunto the goodnes of the vvoll, spinning and vvaveeing might conduce; and are irreparable by the best art of those that handle the cloath aftervvards.

I X.

Hee can ad such helpes to a ship already built, as shall inable it to saile more speedily in a calme, or smal gale and more safely in a storme.

X.

Hee hath an Artifice to supply the vvant of a Rudder in case it be carried avway vvith extremitie of vvether and can substitute another device in place thereof that perhaps shall satisfie the Intentions and uses of a Rudder much more effectually. And vvhat advantage vvould such an invention bring to merchants, vvhen their voyages may be made vvith lesse expence of Sea-mens vvages and victualls and lesse subjection to the Casualties of the vvether? And vvhat advantage to vessels of vvarr in vvhom (it is vvell knowvne) swiftnes of saile is of more consequence, then a triple strength othervvise.

X I.

Hee can in a manner secure a ship from being boarded by an Enemie, and yet have great advantages to board them; vvvhich is the busynes, of all other, of most importance in Sea-fights.

X I I.

Hee propoundeth a fort moveable and easily transportable, vvvhether the exigence of service requires it, furnished vvith vvvelve pieces of ordnance more or lesse, and all other vvvarlike habiliments; vvwhere in the gunners shall be secure from their Enemies shot, and the vvhol soldiery exempt from the Annoyance of smoake: the ordnance being scarce dismountable, the vvhole fort free from being shaken, broken and disordered; the labour of chargeing and discharging the Gunnes lessened, the levelling and traversing them upon all lines compleatly performed, vvith smal and easie motions.

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XIII.

He undertaketh to make a Colonie defensible, vvithin fortie-eight houres after the first landing of the Planters, and vvithin a vveekes time of an extraordinary resistance. Whereas vve see that novv our Europzans vvhen they vvould occupie any of the better Lands in America, must be guarded vvith some thousands of Men, vvhich must be alvvayes kept in a body and that in a posture of vvarre, to prevent the Assaults of the natives (vvho are most plentyfull upon the richest grounds) vvhich is a mighty discommodity to young beginners, vvho expecting a Land of Canaan and rest, find themselves in a Campe of vvarr; and to them such expence of time and cost are for the most part intollerable.

XIV.

Hee can by Carts of a nev v fashion transport great burthens from Place to place; and vvhereas the old ones spoile good vvayes, by making holes, Cartrouts &c. in them; to the extreme prejudice of the poore Cattle that dravv them, to the vexation of the drivers (vvho vvith their horses and carriages are oft times stuck fast in a Bogg, hole or slough) and to the displeasure and irkesomnes of travailers: these nev v Inventions shall plaine, and level, and strengthen the said vvayes, in such sort, as if their vvhole use vv ere but to mend, vvhat the others have undone and spoiled.

XV.

Neither doth he only take avay the common loathsome discommodities of High-vvayes, but can make the vvorst of them viz: the great roades vvithin a mile or tyvo of Londen, or any other great Cittie, vvhere vvayes are bad, like pleasant Promenadoes and vvalkes of recreation in all kinds of vveather. For vvant vvhereof most great Citties are so farr from shareing vvith Amsterdam in its Character. I. From being faire prisons, that they may deservedly be called very foule and unvvholesome jakes and dunghills in comparision of it.

XVI.

Hee undertakes to make the Cittie of Londen a very faire svveet and pleasant Cittie; for, besides the aforementioned imbellishing the High-vvayes and rōdes about it, he doubteth not but vvithin a vveekes time, to make it so cleane vvithin, that one may vv alke in slippers in all vveathers (except snovv) in the fovvlest streets thereof;

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and can settle a way whereby it may be so preserved with lesse then half, an houres labour a day, and with a very slight and cheape provision. So that Houses scarce kept sufficiently cleane with two servants, may by his direction be put into that condition by one: to the great preservation of cloaths and shoeseather; as also of health and the invitation of Countrey-Gentlemen to live in it, who doe for no other reason more then its foulness, abhorre to reside more frequently in it. And besides all this (which may seeme strangest) the very charge of scavengers shall be much lessened, and the dirt which in time, being in so great quantities washed into the Thames, will damme it up, shall be converted to other uses, and that water which foules the said River shall cleanse the Land upon all occasions, and be ready in certaine Repositories or Cisternes, which he will make to run themselves, whethersoever the necessity of quenching fires calls them. Whereupon the confusion and vast of breakeing up the streets, opening the water-pipes &c: Made in such extremities, shall wholly cease, as being no wayes requisite.

XVII.

Hee will order that Bells may be rung with far lesse strength and smaller sized ropes then usuall, whereby we might oftner heare the pleasant noise of Bells, without a tumult of Ringers.

XVIII.

Hee is sorry to see Corne and fulling-Mills set crosse rivers, so as to hinder the passableness and navigabilitie of them, and therefore hath invented a Mill, wherein one horse shall out-grind the strength of a great streame, and others wherein one man may out-doe one horse. The which besides the other uses, would be of no small benefit in besieged Townes, Colonies, &c. where men cannot, or dare not, make use of other Mills.

XIX.

Hee hath by his observation found out sure and un-erring markes to know where springs are, and hath effectually wayes of preserving and encreasing them, and although they rise in very low grounds, he can transmit their waters to houses and townes situate upon an hill; and not only bring them to an house, but convert them to many very pleasant and convenient uses therein.

His

His insight into Gardening extendeth to the nourishing and cultivating of out-landish plants and trees here at home, so as to make them prosper and flourish as in their proper soile, howbeit with lesse and worse fruit; to make our domestick more fruitfull; to accelerate the budding and ripening of fruits and flowers, as also to produce them out of their naturall seasons; to make arbours; and particularly to plant fruit trees with advantage upon boggs and fenns, that now yeeld little profit to their owners.

XXI.

Hee can discover a certaine wood (whereof there is great store in Engeland) hitherto wholly neglected and despised, fit for timber, fair, tough and dureable, free from worms, not subject to rott either in the wet or dry, fit for water-conduits, generally good for all joyners works, particularly for vvaingot, and withall very light of carriage.

XXII.

Hee maketh a certaine Cement, which may be molded into any figure and, being polished is so hard that no ordinary stone-tooles will touch it, very beautyfull and dureable and of a very reasonable rate.

XXIII.

Hee maketh vvaile as firme and substantiall as those of stone and brick and with a little paines as beautyfull (if it be by the Sea-side) and in other places of pebble-stones, gravel, or such like rubbish; and with this matter he can counterfeite either brick or stone, at a very easy rate.

XXIV.

Hee undertakes to preserve Beefe, Pork, Mutton and Venison a twelve moneths time from stinkeing and putrefaction; and can so reduce tainted meates, that the most discerning palate, after he hath ordered them, shall never be sensible of any such defect.

XXV.

Hee can in all seasons and Countries whether excessively intemperate in respect of heat, cold, or moisture; where meates will either not take salt at all, or suddenly putrifie being salted; remedie both the one and the other Inconveniencie.

Where

Where there is occasion of building a fortress by the sea-side, where all convenient materials, seeme to be wanting, he undertakes nevertheless to find wherevithall to make a fort, or least Cannon-peece.

He maketh up Sea-breaches vvhithersoever they happen, more speedily and firmly then by any way yet practised.

Hee will raise a fountaine out of a Levell-ground: vvhithere as the ordinary ones are brought at a vast charge from some adjacent hills, vvhich as they are cheaper then the others, so are they no wayes inferior to them in beauty and high-throvvng of the vvater.

Whereas it happens upon the draining of Marsh or Fennie grounds, that the materials as turf-lands (vvhithereof the bankes used to that purpose are commonly made) are subject either to dry & burne away in summer, or to be burnt up by mischance, hee will see to subside and make them firme.

Moreover he can make these bankes so, as by vvhithersoever they produce to delay the charge of their makeing.

Glory be to God the Father of our Lord IESU CHRIST.

WILLIAM WATTELL.

Eccles. [*For I have seen more strength
in a weak hand than in a strong one.*]

It is to be noted that in the (1.) it is not said that the fort was built before the peace, but that it was built during the peace.

